



STATE OF DELAWARE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
**DELAWARE HARNESS RACING COMMISSION**  
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**Minutes of the**

**Delaware Harness Racing Commission Meeting**

**PUBLIC SESSION**

**February 20, 2018 at 10:00 AM**

**Delaware Department of Agriculture - Conference Room**

**Commission Members Present**

<b>Beverly Steele</b>	<b>Chairman</b>
<b>Patt Wagner</b>	<b>Vice Chairman</b>
<b>George Staats</b>	<b>Commissioner</b>
<b>Stephanie Liguori</b>	<b>Commissioner</b>

**Others Present**

DHRC Executive Director Mark Davis, Dover Downs Vice President of Racing Charles Lockhart, Sr., Harrington Raceway Asst. GM Matt Sparacino, Harrington Facilities Manager Karen Craft, DSOA Executive Director Sal DiMario, DSBF Executive Administrator Judy Davis-Wilson, George Dennis and George Teague.

*Commissioner Jack Berberian was unable to attend this meeting.*

DHRC staff member: Lauren Torres

*Dan Kazmaier was present but had to leave due to illness.*

*Minutes: Donna Krol*

**CALL TO ORDER:**

At 10:05 a.m. Chairman Steele called the public session of the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

Immediately following the "Call to Order," the DHRC Commission dismissed to Executive Session. The Commission returned to Public Session after the Executive Session was complete.

**Executive Session:**

*See Executive Session minutes.*

**Return to Public Session:**

At 10:55 a.m. Chairman Steele called the public session of the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Public minutes from the January 9, 2018 Commission Meeting were reviewed. Chairman Steele entertained a motion to approve the public minutes. Motion was made by Commissioner Staats and seconded by Commissioner Liguori. Motion passed with unanimous voice vote.

**Delaware Harness Racing Commission – Public Session  
February 20, 2018**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Proposed Rule Changes:**

DHRC Rule's: 8.3.5.9.4.1/ 8.3.5.9.6 proposed by Sal DiMario

8.3.5.9.4.1 1st time - ~~10~~ 6 days suspension from racing;

8.3.5.9.6 A horse may be removed from the Bleeder List at the request of the owner or trainer, if the horse completes a ~~10~~ 5 -day rest period following such request, and then re-qualifies. A horse may discontinue the use of Aminocaproic Acid without a ten (10) day rest period or having to requalify provided the horse was on Aminocaproic Acid for thirty (34) days or more. In addition, once a horse discontinues the use of Aminocaproic Acid, it is prohibited from using said medication for ninety (90) days from the date of its last administration for Aminocaproic Acid.

Both proposed rule changes have gone through the Rules Committee process and are before the Commission for approval. Both George Teague and George Dennis spoke to the commission regarding the rule changes from a trainers' perspective and explained the training techniques used when a horse is added or removed from Lasix. After consideration, Chairman Steele made a motion to accept both the proposed rule changes. Motion was carried by Commissioner Liguori and seconded by Commissioner Staats. Motion passed with unanimous voice vote.

These adopted rule changes will go the April Registrar of Regulations, come back to the Commission for final consideration in May, and go back to the June Registrar of Regulations becoming final on June 11, 2018.

**Reports: Executive Director, Racing Officials, Veterinarian:**

**Executive Director: Activity Summary Report**

Mark Davis reviewed the Activity Summary Report's provided to the Commission. Report covers the time period of January 1 through January 31, 2018.

**Racing statistics: June**

Total # of Live Racing Days = 18

Total # Live Races = 234

Average # Races per Day = 13

Total # of Starters = 2,087

Delaware Owned/Trained purse retention: Average = 80.6%

\*Delaware Owned now includes horses that are full/partially owned or trained by Delaware residents.

**License statistics:**

Total # licenses issued = 141

Total Monthly = \$17,710.00/YTD Total = \$17,710.00.

(Total Monthly figures include Licenses, Fingerprints, Appeals and Fines)

**Delaware Harness Racing Commission – Public Session  
February 20, 2018**

**Reports: Executive Director, Racing Officials, And Veterinarian:** cont'd....

**Personnel Activities:**

N/A

**Meetings/Events attended by Mark Davis:**

Commission Meeting 1-9-18

DSOA Banquet 1-12-18

Rules Meeting 1-16-18

**Racing Official Report - Presiding Judge:**

Reported by: Dan Kazmaier

Total # of Rulings: 22

Total fine amount: \$7,850.00

Post-Race Positive Test: Trainer: Ronald Short, Methylprednisolone (C4)

Trainer suspended 15 days, Horse Disqualified, Purse Redistribution

Positive Pre Race Blood Gas Test: Total 6

Trainer's: Michael Hall, Les Givens, Jim King Jr., Bart Bradley, Ed Davis & Philip Sowers (4)

Each Trainer fined \$1,000.00, Horse's put on Stewards List for 14 Days must retest and Requalify.

Trainer's Hall and King have filed Appeals.

**Racing Official Report - Chief Investigator:**

Reported by: Lauren Torres

Total # Human Drug Tests = 25

Positive result: None

Total # Breathalyzer tests = 846 average 47/day, Positive result – None

Total # Truck & Trailer Searches completed = 39 no violations/seizures

**Racing Official Report - Veterinarian:**

Reported by: Mark Davis

Total # of starters = 2,087

Post- Race Testing:

238 Blood samples were collected.

184 Urine samples

54 incomplete collections (no urine)

Catch Rate = 77.3%, average time per catch was 36.5 minutes

Judge's Special Tests: 3

Horse Euthanized On/Off Track: None

Accident On/Off Track: None

1 A-Fib, 0 Breakdown, 48 scratches (Sick & Vet)

**OUT OF COMPETITION TESTING:**

**None**

**FREEDOM of INFORMATION ACT Requests:**

None

**Delaware Harness Racing Commission – Public Session**  
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**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

NONE

**CLOSE OF PUBLIC MEETING:**

With no further public business to discuss, Chairman Steele made a motion to adjourn the public session. Motion was carried by Vice Chairman Wagner and seconded by Commissioner Liguori. Meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

**Next Regular Commission Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 13, 2018 at 10:00 AM**

**Next Rules Committee Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 6, 2018 at 10:00 AM**

**Next DSBF Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 11, 2018.**